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Letter dated 13 August 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), I have the honour to convey the attached letter dated 5 August 2014 from the Deputy Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Alexander Vershbow, transmitting the quarterly report on the international security presence in Kosovo, covering the period from 1 April to 30 June 2014 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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Annex

In accordance with paragraph 20 of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), I attach a report on the operations of the Kosovo Force covering the period from 1 April to 30 June 2014 (see enclosure).

I would appreciate your making this report available to the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alexander **Vershbow**

Enclosure

Report to the United Nations on the operations of the Kosovo Force

1. The present report on the Kosovo Force (KFOR) is provided in accordance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and covers the period from 1 April to 30 June 2014.

2. As at 30 June 2014, the total number of KFOR troops in theatre remained approximately 4,600.

3. The reporting period included the parliamentary election of 8 June 2014, which took place without major security incidents.

Security situation and operations

4. During the reporting period, the security situation in theatre remained calm in the southern part of Kosovo and reasonably stable in the northern part of Kosovo. The implementation of the European Union-facilitated First Agreement of Principles Governing the Normalization of Relations, reached by Belgrade and Pristina on 19 April 2013, continues to have a positive effect on the security situation. On 8 June 2014, parliamentary elections were successfully held in all Kosovo municipalities without major security incidents.

5. Against such a positive background, the KFOR mission to contribute to a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement has continued as part of the comprehensive international effort.

6. During the Assembly election period, KFOR worked in close coordination with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX). KFOR remained ready to provide immediate intervention if required and also maintained full situational awareness. However, there was no need for KFOR direct intervention.

7. The most significant public order incident during the reporting period occurred on 22 June 2014, when some 1,000 Kosovo Albanians protested violently against changes to obstacles on the Austerlitz bridge in Mitrovica. The Kosovo police officers deployed to control the situation were able to restore security. EULEX and KFOR were also present at the scene, in their respective capacities as second and third responders. Some vehicles of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, EULEX and the Kosovo police were damaged during the protest. Approximately 10 protesters and 13 Kosovo police officers were injured.

8. Other security incidents during the reporting period include the murder of a Democratic Party of Kosovo candidate for the Assembly, regarding which an investigation is under way, and an attack with small arms fire against a convoy of the EULEX border/boundary detachment that resulted in material damage.

9. Freedom of movement remained unimpeded during the reporting period, apart from a number of temporary roadblocks that were dismantled without further incidents being reported. Several peaceful protests related to socioeconomic factors were also held in different locations in Kosovo.

10. On 3 April 2014, the upper airspace over Kosovo (flight levels 205 to 660) was reopened for civilian en route traffic. On 4 April 2014, a final letter of agreement was signed between Hungaro Control and Serbia and Montenegro Air Traffic Services, the Serbian-Montenegrin provider of air navigation services, allowing for full capacity within the KFOR sector.

Summary

11. During the reporting period, KFOR contributed to maintaining both a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement in close coordination with EULEX and the Kosovo police. The close coordination on the ground between KFOR, in its capacity as third responder, EULEX and the Kosovo police continued to be highly effective during the reporting period.